



Montana Secretary of State Linda McCulloch
2012 Election Administrator Certification Workshop

***Top 2011 Legislative Changes for Administration of 2012
Primary and General Election**

#1 Voter Registration:

The 15-day deadline for submission of voter registration cards is eliminated; voter registration applicants must be entered in MT Votes within 5 days after the 3-day postmark deadline for certification of VR list; VR cards must be uniform, and must have the absentee list option on them.

#2 Late Registration:

A late registrant who already has been issued a ballot in another county can late register and be issued a ballot, as long as the original county voids the original absentee ballot.

#3 Application for Absentee Ballot:

The 75-day deadline for beginning of requests for absentee ballots is eliminated; the requirement to attach the ballot stub to the application for absentee ballot is removed.

#4 Absentee Ballots:

There is no longer a requirement to send a form to request to be on the absentee list with the absentee ballot packet; ballots can be prepared the day before election day.

#5 Ballots:

Party name can be printed below the candidate's name; ballot wording changed for nonpartisan candidates from "Nominated without party designation" to "Nonpartisan".

#6 Primary Election Unvoted Ballot:

If the unvoted party ballot is not returned with the voted ballot, no action is necessary. The voted ballot is processed as if the unvoted ballot was returned.

#7 UOCAVA:

FPCA for UOCAVA voters is good for 1 year only; electronically submitted UOCAVA ballots must be in by 5 p.m. the day after election day.

#8 Precinct Committee Candidates:

Allows an election administrator to cancel a party's precinct election if candidates are less than or equal to the number of positions to be elected (this means that if no one files for a precinct, that precinct can be left off the ballot); precinct write in candidates must file a declaration of intent in order to have votes counted (they would need to file before the election is canceled).

#9 Primary VIP:

LR 119 will be on the primary ballot, necessitating a primary election voter information pamphlet

*This list is not meant to be a complete list of 2011 election legislation. The complete summary of election legislation can be found at sos.mt.gov.